GENERAL FIELD AT HOME.

Hon. James Gaven Field, the nominee of the People's party for the high office of vice president, was born in Culpepper county, Va., February 24, 1826, and consequently is in his sixty-seventh year.

A representative of the Watchman visited Mr. Field at his Virginia home in Orange county one day this week, and spent a few hours under his hospitable roof, south of Washington ninety-seven miles; the picturesque little town of Gordonsville is located almost under the shadows of the sun capped Blue Ridge. The railroad seems skillfully to thread its way into the town through a gorge, and a beautiful valley, with it its matchless verdure and dainty farms, breaks upon the vision. A short drive of three miles on a historic dirt pike, over which Jefferson and Old Hickory staged their several ways to Washington to assume the great office of president, and the home of Mr. Field is reached.

A REAL VIRGINIA WELCOME.

And such a home! A grand old house set back from the pike on a commanding eminence, verandahed, shaded and cool, with the grassy lawns spreading away on every side. It is a typical Virginia home, indeed, a home that is seen nowhere else on this broad continent, save in the Pledmont region of the Old Dominion. The proprietor of this valuable estate, which, by the way, embraces 2,000 acres of the choicest land, met the writer at the threshold-nay, better than that, at the very gateway-and the hearty welcome every stranger is accorded by these bighearted people was uttered before our name or mission was known.

THE FIELD FAMILY.

John Gaven Field is descended from English ancestors, who, with propogandist enery and rifle and compass, blazed their way when the country was new. One of these ancestors, John Field, was a noted scientist in his day, and was knighted for his astronomical discoveries. Cyrus Field, just dead, and Justice Stephen D. Field, of the United States supreme court, are lineal descendants of the same family as the subject of this eral Association of Baptists at this time, sketch, and so was Gen. Charles W. Field, who distinguished himself as a division commander in the army of northern Virginia.

The Virginia family naturally sided with the colonles in their struggle for independence, and the name figures prominently in the record of the conference held at Williamsburg to protest against the oppression of the mother country.

In both the war of 1812 and in the soldiers, and in the civil war three members of the family were slain in combat, "I'M NOT A GENERAL,"

never attained to a greater rank than war.

"How did I lose my leg?

"Well, quite naturally, like many another soldier, I left it at Slaughter Moun-

the soldiers' heads. I was mounted, and demand their rights. Without organizaa piece of shall plowed its way through tion they could accomplish nothing." my horse's shoulder, cut my stirrup leathers, and crushed my leg below the knee. An amputation followed, and that's the whole story."

GOVERNOR KEMPER SERKS HIM OUT.

Mr. Field has never been a politician in the sense of seeking preferment. He returned to his law office at Culpepper after the war and took an active part in the politics of his county and state, acting always with the Democratic party. In 1877 Governor Kemper selected him to fill the unexpired term as attorney general, and he was afterwards a candidate for this office, and was elected on the ticket that made Holliday, Democrat, the governor; beyond this Mr. Field has sought no office, but has seemed to prefer the quiet and contentment of his home

HOW HE FARMS.

"My lands are fine, as you see, and they are most interesting to look upon, but I find that farming does not pay," remarked Mr. Field. "I take some interest in stock, of course. I have a pretty fleck of Shropshire sheep, black faces, and my cattle are Holstein and Shorthorns crossed.

HE IS A HUNTER AND FISHERMAN. "Do I like the sports? Look at my dogs, pointers, setters and the like.

"I am fond of hunting and the rod both. I have killed a great many deer and turkey in the mountains in my day, and I manage to get my quota of birds now whenever I go gunning."

A CHARMING PAMILY.

A brown-eyed lad of seven or nine years is the eldest of three boys, the fruit of Mr. Field's second union. Three children by his first wife are living, and are the pride of their father. The eldest son is a promising young attorney of Denver, associated with the firm of which Senator Wolcott is the senior partner. A second son, an accomplished young gentleman, is an assistant paymaster in the navy, and was attached recently to the Swatara. The only daughter is the wife of the principal of Roanoke College, Virginia.

"I AM A BAPTIST."

Mr. Field is a prominent member of the Baplist denomination, and takes quite an active part in church affairs. He is the president of the Virginia Genand has been for several years past.

HIS TORA OF PARTIES.

"Located as I am," he remarked, "with Monticello, the home of Jefferson, on one side of me, and Montpeller, the estate of Madison, on the other, I have, from the very nature of my surroundings, as well as from choice, affiliated with the Democratic party, but my idea is that the Democracy has outlived Its usefulness. So it is with the Repullcans. The caucus Mexican war of '45, the family of Fields has taken possession of their representacontributed its quota of distinguished tives in congress, and the two parties have surrendered whatever of principles they once claimed to represent. The and two others were maimed by wounds. war has been ended a quarter of a century, and yet we find these old party "I see the newspapers are beginning to commanders fighting their battles over call me general," remarked Mr. Field, again as vigorously as ever and criminalaughingly. "That is a misnomer; I tion and recrimination is the order instead of fraternity and good will. I see major, and in that capacity was attached in the birth of the new party the dawn of to Gen. A. P. Hill's staff during the a new and brighter era for both sections -a tangible something that means something more substantial than platitudes and promises

"I have never been an Alliance man tain, or, as the Federals call it, 'Cedar because my occupation as a lawyer barred my admission into that order, but "A. P. Hill's light division had a sharp I have been in touch with them as a combat there just prior to the second farmer, and I believe I was among the battle of Manassas, and the Federal ar- first who sympathized with them and adtillery was sweeping off everything above vised them to organize into a party and

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